

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Recently, as one measure to counter the global warming phenomenon, it is being strongly desired to minimize the amount of ~~that~~ carbon dioxide discharged to the atmosphere, which is produced when fossil fuel or the like is combusted.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Unfortunately, in the conventional synthetic gas manufacturing method, a considerable amount of combustion exhaust gas containing carbon dioxide produced in the reformer is discharged from ~~[[a]]~~ the chimney to the atmosphere.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is an object of the present invention to provide a synthetic gas manufacturing plant and synthetic gas manufacturing method, which greatly ~~contribute~~ contributes to the preservation of the global environment by discharging no carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a return passageway to supply part or ~~the whole~~ all of the compressed carbon dioxide from the compressor to the source gas supply passageway.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

(f) a return passageway to supply part or ~~the whole~~ all of the compressed carbon dioxide from the compressor to the source gas supply passageway;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

supplying part or ~~the whole~~ all of the compressed carbon dioxide to the source gas supply passageway through the return passageway, and supplying steam to the source gas supply passageway through the steam supply passageway, thereby supplying a gas mixture of the natural gas, compressed carbon dioxide, and steam, as a source gas, to the reaction tube externally heated by the combustion radiation unit of the reformer.

Please amend the Abstract at page 26, lines 1-17, as follows: